AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-10 (Cancelled)

11. (Previously Presented) A method of testing a plumbing system of a bathtub for leakage, comprising:

providing an overflow pipe with an upper end and a lower end with an elbow therebetween, said upper end being adapted to fit at least completely through an overflow port of said bathtub, said upper end having threads and extending from an outer surface of said bathtub to the inner surface of said bathtub;

providing a lip extending radially outwardly from an outer surface of the overflow pipe between the elbow and the upper end that engages an outer surface of said bathtub adjacent to said overflow port;

associating a nut element with said upper end of said overflow pipe to secure said overflow pipe within said overflow port of said bathtub, wherein a wall of said bathtub is positioned between said lip and said nut element, said nut element comprising threads compatible with said threads of said upper end and said nut element having at least one lug extending radially therefrom wherein said nut element and said at least one lug constitute a single-piece unit;

preventing fluid flow through said overflow pipe;

testing the plumbing system associated with said bathtub to determine the existence of a fluid leak;

permitting fluid flow through said overflow pipe; and

engaging a cap to said at least one lug of said nut element, said cap being detachably engageable to said at least one lug of said nut element.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 11, wherein said preventing fluid flow comprises associating a diaphragm with said overflow pipe.

13. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 12, wherein said permitting fluid flow comprises opening said diaphragm with a cutting instrument.

14. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 11, further comprising associating a washer with said upper end of said overflow pipe such that said washer is positioned between the inner surface of said bathtub and said nut element.

15. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 11, further comprising interconnecting a pipe from said overflow pipe to a vent pipe of the plumbing system.

16. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 11, further comprising:

providing a drain pipe that includes an annular flange positioned about an end thereof;

providing a lock washer associated with said annular flange with a bottom wall of said bathtub positioned therebetween;

preventing fluid flow through said drain pipe; and

permitting fluid flow through said drain pipe.

17. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 16, wherein said lock washer is secured to said drain pipe by way of a threaded connection.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 16, wherein said preventing fluid flow comprises associating a diaphragm with said overflow pipe.

19. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 18, wherein said permitting fluid flow comprises opening said diaphragm associated with said overflow pipe with a cutting instrument.

20. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 16, further comprising associating a drain closure with said drain pipe.

21. (Previously Presented) An overflow assembly for facilitating leak testing of a plumbing system that is adapted to be associated with a bathtub, comprising:

an overflow pipe including an upper and a lower end;

an elbow between said upper end and said lower end, said upper end being adapted to fit completely through an overflow port of the bathtub and having threads;

a lip extending radially outwardly from an outer surface of the overflow pipe between said elbow and said upper end that is adapted to engage an outer surface of the bathtub adjacent to the overflow port;

a nut element associated with said overflow pipe adapted to secure said overflow pipe to the end of the bathtub wherein a wall of the bathtub is positioned between said lip and said nut element, said nut element comprising threads compatible with said threads of said upper end and said nut element having a plurality of lugs extending radially from said nut element wherein said nut element and said plurality of lugs constitute a single-piece unit;

a means for preventing fluid flow through said overflow pipe; and

a cap selectively interconnected to said nut element.

22. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 21, wherein said means for preventing fluid flow is a selectively removable diaphragm.

23. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 21, further comprising a washer associated with said upper end of said overflow pipe such that said washer is adapted to be positioned between the wall of the bathtub and said nut element.

24. (Previously Presented) An overflow assembly for a bathtub, comprising:

an overflow port having a flange, said overflow port associated with a threaded portion extending from said flange, said threaded portion adapted to pass through a wall of the bathtub and to be at least partially positioned within the bathtub;

a means for preventing fluid flow through said overflow port that is associated with said threaded portion, said means for preventing fluid flow sealing an outer end of said threaded portion;

a nut, having a threaded center opening, threadably mounted on said threaded portion of said overflow port, said nut being adapted to secure said flange to the wall of the bathtub by exerting pressure towards said flange; and

said nut having an outer periphery with a series of radially extending lugs which detachably engage an inner surface of a cap which fits over said nut.

25. (Previously Presented) The assembly of Claim 24, wherein said means for preventing fluid flow is a selectively removable thin diaphragm.

26. (Previously Presented) The assembly of Claim 24, wherein said means for preventing fluid flow is associated directly with said overflow port and does not extend into said threaded portion of said overflow port.

27. (Previously Presented) The assembly of Claim 24, wherein said nut and said radially extending lugs constitute a single-piece unit.

28. (Cancelled)

29. (Previously Presented) The assembly of Claim 24, wherein said means for preventing fluid flow has a circular shape.

30. (Previously Presented) The assembly of Claim 24, wherein said means for preventing fluid flow has a diameter that is not less than the diameter of said threaded portion of said overflow port.

31. (Cancelled)

32. (Previously Presented) The assembly of Claim 24, wherein said means for preventing fluid flow comprises a plastic material.

33. (Previously Presented) The assembly of Claim 24, wherein said means for preventing fluid flow is removable.

34. (Previously Presented) The assembly of Claim 24, wherein said means for preventing fluid flow is circular, has a diameter that is not less than the diameter of said outer end of said outlet port, is composed of a plastic material, and is removable.

35. (Previously Presented) The assembly of Claim 24, wherein said preventing fluid flow comprises a member that is at least one of circular, has a diameter that is not less than the diameter of said outer end of said outlet port, is composed of a plastic material, and is removable.

36. (Previously Presented) A method of testing a plumbing system of a bathtub for leakage, comprising:

providing an overflow port having a flange, said overflow port having a threaded portion extending from said flange that is adapted to pass through a wall of the bathtub to be at least partially positioned within the bathtub;

providing a nut having a threaded center opening threadably mounted on said threaded portion of said overflow port that is adapted to secure said flange to the end of the wall, said nut having an outer periphery with a series of radially extending lugs, wherein said nut and said radially extending lugs constitute a single-piece unit that detachably engages an inner surface of a cap;

preventing fluid flow through said overflow port;

testing the plumbing system associated with said bathtub to determine the existence of a fluid leak;

permitting fluid flow through said overflow port; and

engaging a cap to said nut.

37. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 36, wherein said preventing fluid flow comprises associating a diaphragm with said overflow port.

38. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 37, wherein said permitting fluid flow comprises opening said diaphragm with a cutting instrument.

39. (Cancelled)